# WORSHIP GUIDE

**Hope Chapel Greensboro** 

February 2, 2024



## Reflection

O God, by your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.

—based on Ephesians 3:18-19

## **Gathering Song**

We sing as a way of engaging our voices, imaginations, words, and desires in the worship of God. We sing together, to God and to each other, because of our calling to be a people joined together in Christ.

#### This Is My Father's World

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise, The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair; In the rustling grass I hear Him pass; He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world, why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King, let the heavens ring. God reigns, let the earth be glad.

Maltbie Babcock (1901) traditional English melody

## Welcome

We're glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please take a moment to fill out a "Connect Card", available in a seat-back near you or online using this QR code. We would love the chance to connect with you and help you know more about our community.



## **Call to Worship**

From Psalm 147,

**The Call to Worship** and the Benediction are important traditions in the history of Christian worship. As the start and close of the service, they make an important point to us about worship: God gets the first and last word.

We understand the Call to Worship as God's call to us. If we are ever to have a relationship with God, it is God who must first initiate to us. God alone can invite us and draw us in.

Likewise, in the Benediction, it is only by God's blessing (which is what a "benediction" is) and power are we able to go out into the world, to surrender our lives in daily worship, and to live out God's mission.

Leader: Praise the Lord! It is good to sing praises to our God

All: For he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

Leader: The Lord builds up his people;

he gathers them together out of exile.

All: He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Leader: The Lord determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

All: Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

Leader: Let us sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God with instruments and voices.

All: For he delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

## **Song of Praise**

### Sing

Did you draw a breath as the dawn awoke And does your heart still beat? Is the mighty Word of the living God Upholding you? Then sing, O sing

Has the Father's love filled your longing heart With grace for every need? Come and lay your burdens at Jesus' feet And find new strength to sing, O sing

Morning and evening! Everything breathing must sing, O sing! All of creation rise up and praise the King of kings and sing!

Has the Son of God died to take away Your sin and set you free? Has the Conqueror trampled over death? Is Christ enthroned? Then sing, O sing!

On the final day when the Lord on High Returns in majesty We will bow in wonder before the Lamb And evermore the saints will sing

Nathan Stiff and David Zimmer (2024)

## **Confession of Sin**

Why do we confess sin? Worship both draws us to God and reveals where we are distant from him. Throughout Scripture, when people see or experience God they are faced with the reality of their own brokenness and shame. Likewise, we confess our sin, as a community and individually.

Lord, You command us to follow you, but we do not obey.
You call us to worship You, but we do not listen.
You invite us to repent, but we do not turn to you.

Though you have forgiven us,
we do not forgive our enemies.
Though you have loved us,
we fail to love our neighbors as ourselves.

We acknowledge our sin and confess our weakness.
Though we are faithless,
You are always faithful!
Please forgive us for Jesus' sake,
and change us by your Holy Spirit.

\*\*time for silent confession\*\*

# **Words of Forgiveness**

We are not alone. The Bible teaches that Jesus understands what it is to be human. Because He was fully man, He is compassionate and merciful toward us in our sin and failures. But not only can He sympathize with us, Jesus (being fully God) also has set us free from the power of sin by his death and resurrection.

<sup>9</sup> Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:9-11

# **Passing of the Peace**

Why is the Greeting put after our Words of Forgiveness? The book of 2 Corinthians reminds us that part of God's goal in reconciling Himself to us was that we might likewise be reconciled with one another. But for healing and wholeness to take place in our relationships (which is what the Greeting enacts as we acknowledge one another in the peace of our Lord), we must first know the healing of our relationship with God through Christ. God's pardon of us sets us free to love and forgive one another without reservation or qualification!

# Songs of Praise & Thanksgiving

**Responding to grace**: After being reminded of God's lavish grace and love toward us, we respond by celebrating with singing.

#### Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

> This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior, all the day long!

Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; Angels descending bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest I in my Savior am happy and blessed, Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Fanny Crosby, Phoebe Knapp (1873)

# **Giving of Tithes & Offering**

What's the offering all about? The offering is a way for Christians to support the mission and ministry of the church. Christians offer a sacrificial portion of their resources—time, talents, possessions—as an act of faith and gratitude in response to God's grace. While many at Hope Chapel make their regular contributions through online giving and automated bill pay, offerings are a part of our worship service as an opportunity for the regular, proportionate and generous giving of the resources God has given us.

If you are a guest, please feel no obligation to give. Giving is for the members and regular attenders who desire to give to God and His church so that we can be a blessing to Him and our community in even greater ways.

Ways to give: You may drop a check or cash in the offering plate, give online at hopechapelgreensboro.org/give, or give through Venmo to @HopeChapel (note: contributions made through Venmo are not receipted for tax purposes).



#### A Thousand Hallelujahs

Who else would rocks cry out to worship?
Whose glory taught the stars to shine?
Perhaps creation longs to have the words to sing,
But this joy is mine...

With a thousand hallelujahs we magnify Your name; You alone deserve the glory, the honor and the praise! Lord Jesus, this song is forever Yours: A thousand hallelujahs and a thousand more!

Who else would die for our redemption?
Whose resurrection means I'll rise?
There isn't time enough to sing of all You've done,
But I have eternity to try...

Praise to the Lord, to the Lamb, to the King of Heaven! Praise for He rose, now He reigns, we will sing forever.

Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, Phil Wickham (2022)

# **Prayer of Renewal**

**Church, City, World.** Corporate prayer is an essential part of the worship and work of God's people. We pray for specific needs– naming and sometimes lamenting the brokenness in the world– mindful to ask our powerful and merciful God for help for the Church, the city, the world, and for one another.

The leader will end each section of the prayer by saying "Lord, in Your mercy..." and the congregation responds with "...Hear our prayer."

# **Scripture Reading**

What do we do during the Scripture Reading? Because the Word of God is one of the chief means through which God has chosen to speak to us, it is a principle and direct way we "hear from God" in worship. The public reading of Scripture, then, is a sacred act that deserves our full attention and focus. Especially in our age, we must discipline ourselves to listen to readings for longer periods of time, for God's Word is food for our soul.

#### Luke 6:27-36 (ESV)

<sup>27</sup> "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup> To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. <sup>31</sup> And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

<sup>32</sup> "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

## Sermon

## The Church's Mission: Loving Enemies

Andy Koesters serves as Pastor to Churches and Families with Families Alive (familiesalive.org). He and his family worship at Hope Chapel. This sermon is part of a series on the book of Luke where we are exploring "The Church's Mission." For past sermons, please visit our website.

# **Notes:**

## Communion

What Is Communion? What we do during communion isn't merely a symbolic act or a remembrance—it's more than that. 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 teaches us that we are actually communing with Christ Himself as we partake of the elements. We mysteriously "participate in the body and blood" of Jesus. As we take communion, let us remember that Christ is spiritually present in a special way for us in this sacrament. Let's enjoy the feast!

If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, please feel free to not participate and instead spend this time in prayer ("Prayers for Reflection" are included in this worship guide). We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church. PLEASE NOTE: All bread is gluten-free.

# **Communion Litany**

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: As we come to the table, let us pray together:

All: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere

to give thanks to You, Father Almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth.

because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, You have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,

to give the knowledge of Your glory

in the face of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Therefore we praise You, joining our voices with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, who forever sing to the glory of Your Name.

Words of Institution

#### Prayer of Approach

Minister: Therefore, together, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

 $\label{thm:minister:lord} \mbox{Minister: Lord Jesus, Your perfect life, death, and resurrection are the}$ 

source of all blessing in this life and the life to come.

All: As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the joy and glory of knowing and serving You. I come to this table on the

basis of Your merit only and not my own.

As You have completely and fully offered Yourself for me,

I now completely and fully offer

myself to You as a living sacrifice. Amen.

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us. Alleluia.

All: Alleluia!

Minister: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Minister: Take these in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, and drink, remembering that Christ's

blood has been shed for you!

## Preparation for the Table

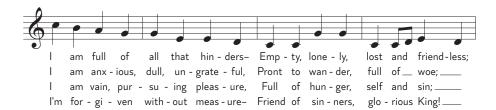
#### The Feast

#### Jesus, Faithful Friend of Sinners

Douglas Bond, Gregory Wilbur (2014)



- 1. Je-sus, faith-ful friend of sin-ners, God in-car-nate, pure and sin-less; 2. Je-sus, ten-der Shep-herd faith-ful, God in full-ness here be-low;\_\_\_\_
- 3. Je-sus, Ser-vant, pre cious trea-sure, Gave Your life my life to win. \_\_\_\_
- 4. Je-sus, Sa vior, blest Re deem-er- Filled with mer cy o ver-flow-ing,





# **Prayers for Reflection**

## Prayer for Those Searching

Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what You claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who You are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following You as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life You promise. Amen.

#### Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through You, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank You for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that You have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive You as my Savior and my Lord. Amen.

#### Prayer for Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in You the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on You, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and faithfully follow You in life. Amen.

#### Prayer for Renewal and Commitment

Lord Jesus, You have called us to follow You in baptism, to love God and neighbor, and to a life of committed discipleship in your Church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with Your people, to pursue forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace, and to live in the fullness of Your Spirit. Amen.

#### Prayer after Communion

Minister: Let us pray.

All: O Jesus Christ, Savior of the world,

We thank You that in this holy meal,

You renew Your promises within us,

empower us by Your Spirit to witness and to serve,

and send us out as Your disciples. Amen.

## Doxology

Thomas Ken (1674), Louis Bourgeois (1551)









## **Sending Song**

## Justice Will Roll Down

Sandra McCracken (2010)





oh jus-tice will roll down, \_\_\_\_

Jus-tice will \_\_\_ roll down, \_\_\_\_



from

# Community Life Blessing & Sending

2 Corinthians 13:14

Minister: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,

and the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: Amen.

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

# **Financial Update**

Given Last Week: \$15,632 Gifts can be placed in the offering Required to date: \$73,312 plate on Sundays or mailed to:

(Jan. 1 - Jan. 26) Hope Chapel

Given to date: \$78,448 908 N. Josephine Boyd St Over/[Under] \$5,136 Greensboro, NC 27408

Online giving is available on our website: www.hopechapelgreensboro.org/give We also accept donations via Venmo: @HopeChapel.

## Contact

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